

Committee: City Bridge Trust	Dated: 31 January 2018
Subject: Progress Report	Public
Report of: Chief Grants Officer	For Information

Summary

This is a regular report by the Chief Grants Officer (CGO). You are asked within this report to note updates on the following:

- Implementation of Bridging Divides
- The Bridge Fund and the Cornerstone Fund
- Youth Providers Event – Mansion House
- Philanthropy Strategy
- Old Bailey Themed Lunch
- Human Resources

Recommendation

- a) That the report be noted.

Main Report

Introduction

1. You will recall that you have agreed that each of the City Bridge Trust (CBT) Committee Meetings will begin with a presentation on a particular aspect of the work you support. As this is the first committee meeting of 2018 and there is a focus on the Bridging Divides Strategy, with the Chairman's approval we have delayed the first speaker of 2018 to March.

Implementation of Bridging Divides

2. The Implementation of Bridging Divides strategy 2018-2023 continues and an update is provided in a separate report provided at this Committee.
3. On 18 January 2018, The Policy and Resources Committee agreed with the approach that the implementation of Bridging Divides should allow City Bridge Trust to:
 - a) ensure the maximum impact in tackling inequality in London, achieving greater impact for individuals and communities;

- b) become an exemplar in charity governance and leadership in London and across the UK; and
 - c) be a catalyst for a bold step change in how the City Corporation describes and directs its charitable activity and funding.
4. It also agreed, on recommendation of the Resource Allocation Sub-committee, to approve a £1M provision to support a strategic review of the Bridge House Estates; and the 2018-2019 budget uplift to CBT's budget to support the implementation of Bridging Divides (as recommended by this Committee).

The Bridge Fund and the Cornerstone Fund

- 5. These are two funds you established to underpin the future of infrastructure support for London's civil society organisations as part of the allocation of additional funds that were approved during your 20th anniversary year.
- 6. The £1m Bridge Fund was to support 15 organisations, previously funded by London Councils, on its voluntary sector infrastructure support programme. The grants, awarded in March 2017, did not directly replace the London Councils funding but they provided funding of up to £50,000 to enable those organisations to engage with the implementation of The Way Ahead.
- 7. At your November 2017 Committee Meeting, we reported that these organisations had been invited to apply for extension funding to apply for extension funding, to cover the period April to September 2018. The closing date for applications was 15th November 2017.
- 8. The organisations were advised that a decision as to whether extension funding would be recommended would depend on how well the organisation was judged to have engaged with The Way Ahead and the applicants were aware that receiving further funding was not a foregone conclusion. The assessment would be informed by their monitoring reports submitted at the end of October 2017, together with their current application.
- 9. Of the original fifteen organisations, Greater London Volunteering is acting as the vehicle for the new Hub for London and you awarded funding for the first year of its operation at your September 2017 meeting. London Voluntary Services Council closed on 31st October 2017. The thirteen remaining organisations applied for extension funding.
- 10. Applicants were advised that continuation request could be for a sum of up to £50,000, although they were also advised that funding was likely to be proportionate to the previous grant.
- 11. The applications were assessed by a panel, comprising representatives from the Cornerstone Reference Group, on 28th November 2017. Of the thirteen applications, nine were recommended for a grant and four were recommended for rejection, for approval through the delegated authority of

the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Chief Grants Officer. These will be reported to your next Committee Meeting.

12. In the event, none of the grants recommended exceeded £25,000 because the panel felt that whilst these nine had been actively involved with The Way Ahead and associated activities, none were proposing activity that would go beyond the level of their engagement thus far.
13. Work continues on developing the parameters and governance of the Cornerstone Fund, principally through its reference group. A sub-group of this is currently working on an outcomes framework for the Fund.
14. A consultation meeting with relevant civil society representatives and funders is planned for 5th February 2018.

Youth Providers Event – Mansion House

15. A seminar was held for some of London's key youth providers and support organisations at the Mansion House on Monday 15th January on the themes of supporting greater collaboration and developing leadership in that sector. Introductory speeches by Alderman Peter Estlin and the Chairman set the scene for a range of short presentations on what groups were already doing and what more could be done in the future.
16. In common with other, similar, Trust events delegates were encouraged to end the seminar with a range of tangible action points which, when compiled, will be shared amongst all the attendees and Members of this Committee. It is likely, for example, that your officers will be able to take some recommendations for positive action to other funders through our own networks – and also to make some adaptations to our own processes which may help support skills development and networking within the sector.
17. Our thanks to the Mansion House and its staff for enabling us to use such a magnificent venue.

Philanthropy Strategy

18. As you will be aware, Fiona Rawes MBE joined the team in late October 2017 as Head of Philanthropy Strategy, having previously held National Director roles at Teach First and Business in the Community following 6 years as Director of Heart of the City.
19. Fiona has made encouraging progress scoping levels of giving across the Corporation and exploring greater opportunities for collaboration across internal teams engaged in either advising on, soliciting or giving time, money and skills.
20. She has also spent considerable time consulting with key businesses, grant makers and philanthropists and civil society partners to understand where the

greatest gaps lie in the philanthropic ecosystem and where your Trust alongside its Trustee can make the biggest difference.

21. This strategic initiative has been warmly received and there is a real appetite for a more coherent and joined up philanthropic agenda and approach across the City of London and its associated charities, particularly amongst City Businesses. There is also recognition of the clear added value the Corporation and your Trust can provide given the depth of your respective links into businesses, Her Majesty's Government and Civil Society. There is an appetite for multi-sectoral approaches, reflecting the complexity of the challenges we face, and a push for intelligent partnering with national partners to ensure that the strategy impacts not only London but also further afield.

Old Bailey Themed Lunch

22. Your Chairman, CGO and CEO of Wembley National Stadium Trust were invited to a CBT themed lunch at the Old Bailey on 9th January 2018. Three CBT grantee organisations were also invited; The Island Advice Centre, The Legal Advice Centre and Spark Inside. The guests were introduced to the work of the Old Bailey by Alderman and Sheriff Timothy Hailes, followed by a lunch with her Majesty's judges. Following the lunch, all of the CBT grantee organisations attended an active court case so as to round off their visit.

Human Resources

23. Jemma Grieve-Coombes returned from maternity leave on 16th January, and will continue in her role as a Grants officer within the Monitoring and Evaluation team working three days a week.
24. The employment contracts for Geraldine Page and Kate Moralee (Grants Officers) which were due to end in February and March respectively. Their contracts have now been extended until end September 2018.

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